

*2 Dr. Martin 2413*  
*Library*  
**SEAHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

ON THE

**HEALTH & SANITARY**

**CIRCUMSTANCES**

**OF THE URBAN DISTRICT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1962**

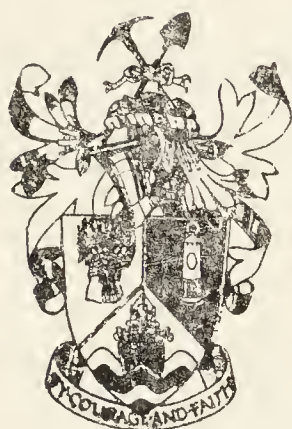
---

**J. W. A. RODGERS, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.**

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**



SEAHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



# ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH & SANITARY

CIRCUMSTANCES

OF THE URBAN DISTRICT


FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER, 1962

---

J. W. A. RODGERS, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

---



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2018 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30075452>

**SEAHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

---

Chairman— Councillor J. T. Dawson

Chairman of Health Committee—Councillor J. H. COATES

---

**Members of the Council**

Councillor	*BERRY	Councillor	LOWERY
„	BLACKWELL	„	LOWES
„	BURROWS	„	*McCUTCHEON
„	*CHARLTON	„	MITCHELL
„	*CLAYTON	„	*OLIVER
„	*CLENNELL	„	*OSMOND
„	*COATES	„	ROBINSON
„	*DAWSON	„	STRONG
„	FAWELL	„	*TAYLOR
„	GILMORE	„	THOMPSON
„	*GOODWIN	„	*TULLY
„	*HEDLEY	„	WALKER
„	JOBLING	„	WAUGH
„	JOHNSON	„	WILLIAMS
„	LENNOX, J.P.	„	YOUNG
„	*LENNOX, J.		

\* Members of Health Committee.

---

**Members of the Health Service (No. 5 Area) Sub-Committee**

Councillors BERRY, CLAYTON, CLENNELL, HEDLEY.

Clerk of the Council ..... F. A. ALDERSON

Treasurer ..... R. W. POTTS

Engineer and Surveyor ..... A. BARRETT, A.M.I.Mun.E.

Housing Manager ..... W. E. GARRETT, A.I.Hsg.

## **Public Health Staff**

Medical Officer of Health—

Dr. J. W. A. RODGERS, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector—

A. KENYON, M.A.P.H.I.

Public Health Inspector—

J. K. WALLS, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

Clerk in Health Department— Miss J. ADAMSON.

Rodent Operator—T. TODD.



To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Urban District of Seaham for the year 1962.

The total population of the area has fallen slightly and this, taking into account the high birth rate of 19.31 and low death rate of 11.00, suggests there must still be a considerable drift of population from the district to localities offering more employment or, perhaps, a better climate. Presumably, this exodus is mainly confined to the younger generation, although there is no change in the Registrar General's comparability factor, the application of which raises the crude death rate of 11.0 to the corrected one of 15.07 per 1,000 of the population.

Infant mortality shows a welcome return to the trend evident during the past few years and is now at 22.2, only a little above the national average. Undoubtedly a factor in this steady decline is the improved standard of housing now so apparent in the older part of the town. Considerable progress has been made in the elimination of properties in multiple occupation and it is pleasing to note that the Council are considering the acquisition and improvement of those remaining, where the general condition does not warrant action under slum clearance procedure.

Infectious and contagious disease has not been the cause of any concern during the year and there were no cases of poliomyelitis, diphtheria, food poisoning or typhoid. Tuberculosis is decreasing and both the respiratory and other forms of the disease show a case rate below that for England & Wales; no mean achievement in a town in which the predominant industry is mining. Again, some of the credit must go to the Council for their enlightened housing policy in granting accommodation to those people affected by this disease.

Little progress has yet been made in the campaign for clean air, but, although the problem is not particularly acute in a coastal town, too much should not be made of the difficulties associated with miners' concessionary coal, now that a reasonable supply of smokeless fuel is available.

The three remaining slaughterhouses, still operating in Seaham and not complying with the Regulations, were closed. Consequently, from the end of June onwards, no meat inspection was carried out.

During the year the two pupil public health inspectors successfully completed their studies and are now in employment with neighbouring authorities.

Finally, once again may I take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the members of the Health Committee and the Council, to the Health Department staff and to the Council's officials for their continued help and co-operation throughout the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. W. A. RODGERS,

Medical Officer of Health.



STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres — 2,469.  
Registrar General’s Estimate of resident population, mid-1962 — 25,630.  
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1962) according to Rate Books 7,914.  
Rateable Value — £518,170.  
Sum represented by a penny rate — £1,925.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the year 1962

LIVE BIRTHS					Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	477	241	236
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	18	6	12
Total	...	...	...	...	495	247	248

Birth Rates—							
Legitimate	...	18.61	per 1,000 estimated resident population.				
Illegitimate	...	0.70	”	”	”	”	”
Total	...	19.31	”	”	”	”	”

STILL BIRTHS					Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	6	4	2
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total	...	...	...	...	6	4	2
Still Birth Rate—11.98 per 1,000 live and still births.							

DEATHS				Total.	Male.	Female.
				282	161	121
Death Rate—						
11.00 per 1,000 estimated resident population.						

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES

		Deaths.	Rate (per 1,000 live and still births)
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ...		0	NIL.

INFANT MORTALITY

		Total.	Male.	Female.
Deaths of Infants under 1 year ...		11	6	5
Infant Mortality Rate—22.22 per 1,000 live births.				

## NEO-NATAL MORTALITY.

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Deaths of Infants under 1 month ...	8	3	5
Neo-natal Mortality Rate—16.16 per 1,000 live births.			

## CAUSES OF DEATH OF INFANTS.

Age.	Sex	Cause.
15 Mins.	F	Respiratory failure.
40 Mins.	F	Prematurity.
50 Mins.	F	Prematurity.
2 hours	F	Prematurity.
2 hours	M	Prematurity.
12 hours	F	Prematurity.
19 hours	M	Prematurity.
1 week	M	Meningitis.
3 months	M	Acute bronchiolitis.
4 months	M	Circulatory failure. Broncho pneumonia and septicaemia.
5 months	M	Acute bronchiolitis.
Mortality of Legitimate Infants — 20.96 per 1,000 legitimate live births.		
Mortality of Illegitimate Infants—55.55 per 1,000 illegitimate live births.		

## DEATHS FROM THE COMMON INFECTIOUS FEVERS

Death from Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	0
„ Measles	...	...	...	...	...	0
„ Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	0
„ Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	...	...	...	...	...	0

The causes of the greatest mortality during 1962 were :

Cardio-vascular Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	138
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	48
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	22
Accidental deaths (inc. motor vehicle accidents)	...	...	...	...	...	17
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	14

## DEATHS DUE TO CANCER OF THE LUNG.

Age (years).					Male.	Female.
15-24	...	...	...	...	0	0
25-34	...	...	...	...	0	0
35-44	...	...	...	...	1	0
45-54	...	...	...	...	1	1
55-64	...	...	...	...	4	0
65-74	...	...	...	...	4	2
75 and over	...	...	...	...	0	0
TOTALS	...	...	...	...	10	3

# BIRTH RATES AND DEATH RATES IN THE YEAR 1962. England & Wales and Seaham

	Rate per 1,000 Population		Rate per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births		Rate per 1,000 Deaths (all ages)		Rate per 1,000 Related Live Births		Rate per 1,000 Maternal Deaths		Rate per 1,000 Related Live Births		Rate per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births		Rate per 1,000 Deaths under 1 week	
	Live Births	Still-Births	Live Births	Still-Births	Deaths (all ages)	Deaths under 1 year	Deaths under 1 mth.	Deaths under 1 mth.	Maternal Deaths	Deaths under 1 mth.	Deaths under 1 mth.	Deaths under 1 mth.	Deaths under 1 mth.	Deaths under 1 mth.	Deaths under 1 week	Deaths under 1 week
England and Wales ...	18.0	18.1	11.9	18.1	11.9	21.6	15.1	15.1	0.35	15.1	15.1	15.1	15.1	15.1	30.8	30.8
Seaham ...	19.31	11.98	11.00	11.98	11.00	22.22	16.16	16.16	NIL.	16.16	16.16	16.16	16.16	16.16	13.97	13.97

**CORRECTED NOTIFICATIONS AND CASE RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION OF CERTAIN INFECTIOUS  
DISEASES IN THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1962**

	Quarter	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Typhoid fever	Para- typhoid fever	Acute pneumonia (primary or influenzal)	Dysentery	Acute Poliomyelitis		Food poisoning	Tuberculosis		
								Paralytic	Non- paralytic		Respirat'ry	Meninges and C.N.S.	Other
England and Wales	First	5,219	7	41	11	6,165	7,656	39	7	780	4,827	38	595
	Second	3,238	4	17	28	2,254	10,182	66	17	1,101	4,844	42	657
	Third	2,259	6	46	53	1,219	4,911	86	29	1,704	4,175	43	652
	Fourth	4,594	2	23	26	2,891	8,153	21	7	1,565	4,127	41	617
Total		15,310	19	127	118	12,529	30,902	212	60	5,150	17,973	164	2,521
Case Rate		0.328	0.0004	0.0027	0.0025	0.268	0.662	0.0045	0.001	0.110	0.385	0.0035	0.054
Seaham	First	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	—	—
	Second	—	—	—	—	1	12	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Third	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1
	Fourth	—	—	—	—	2	7	—	—	—	1	—	—
Total		4	—	—	—	4	19	—	—	—	8	—	1
Case Rate		0.156	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	0.156	0.741	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	0.312	Nil.	0.039



# COMPARATIVE TABLE OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1943-1962

(The Birth Rate and Death Rate are shown corrected by the Registrar General's comparability factors of 0.99 and 1.37 respectively for 1962).

Year		Population Estimated	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infantile Mortality
1943	...	22,910	19.86	13.5	59.3
1944	...	23,420	20.8	11.2	73.6
1945	...	23,930	21.5	10.0	56.3
1946	...	24,990	23.4	11.1	46.1
1947	...	25,240	23.73	11.8	48.4
1948	...	25,710	22.09	9.95	45.75
1949	...	25,900	21.5	10.3	46.67
1950	...	25,990	19.12	10.65	42.25
1951	...	25,920	18.17	11.26	21.23
1952	...	25,660	17.73	10.65	26.03
1953	...	25,690	20.35	11.57	27.61
1954	...	25,650	18.64	12.3	20.7
1955	...	25,740	18.88	11.94	44.8
1956	...	25,940	19.39	12.57	27.56
1957	...	26,130	19.25	13.79	21.65
1958	...	26,320	20.8	14.16	25.32
1959	...	26,440	19.69	13.88	20.91
1960	...	26,410	18.07	13.75	20.20
1961	...	25,660	18.71	14.41	35.05
1962	...	25,630	19.12	15.07	22.22



## CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR, 1962

CAUSES OF DEATH					Males	Females
All Causes	...	...	...	...	161	121
Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	—	—
Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	—	—
Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—
Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	4	4
„ „ lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	10	3
„ „ breast	...	...	...	...	—	4
„ „ uterus	...	...	...	...	—	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	11	11
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	3	—
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	—	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	15	22
Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	34	19
Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	2	5
Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	13	13
Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	10	5
Influenza	...	...	...	...	3	2
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	8	6
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	19	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	2	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	—	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	—	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	—	—
Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	9	13
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	1	1
All other accidents	...	...	...	...	11	4
Suicide	...	...	...	...	3	—
Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	—	—

**Confirmed Cases of Infectious and other Notifiable Diseases, 1962**  
(other than Tuberculosis)

Numbers originally notified.	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Dysentery
<b>Total</b> ( <i>all ages</i> )	4	4	14	19
Under 1 yr.	—	—	1	1
1-2 years	—	1	3	1
2-3 years	—	1	4	1
3-4 years	—	1	1	3
4-5 years	—	—	2	1
5-9 years	4	1	3	3
10-14 years	—	—	—	2
15-24 years	—	—	—	1
25 and over	—	—	—	3
Age unknown	—	—	—	3
<b>Total</b> ( <i>all ages</i> )	4	4	14	19

Numbers originally notified.	Acute Pneumonia
<b>Total</b> ( <i>all ages</i> )	4
Under 5 yrs.	—
5-14 years	—
15-44 years	—
45-64 years	3
65 and over	1
Age unknown	—
<b>Total</b> ( <i>all ages</i> )	4

## TUBERCULOSIS

The following table shows the new cases and deaths for the Urban District of Seaham during 1962 :—

Age Periods	NEW CASES				TOTAL DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10 years ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-15 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20 „ ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
20-25 „ ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35 „ ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45 „ ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-55 „ ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65 „ ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	5	3	1	—	—	—	—	—

## DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH & TETANUS IMMUNISATION

There were no cases of diphtheria in the District during the year.

The following tables show the number and ages of children immunised against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus in Seaham during 1962.

### DIPHTHERIA (Either singly or in combination)

Ages at Date of Immunisation	Under 1 1962	1 to 4 1958-61	5 to 14 1948-57	Total
Primary Immunisations ...	83	227	31	341
Reinforcing Injections ... ..	—	11	75	86

### WHOOPING COUGH (Either singly or in combination)

Ages at Date of Immunisation	Under 1 1962	1 to 4 1958-61	5 to 14 1948-57	Total
Primary Immunisations ...	83	324	23	430
Reinforcing Injections ... ..	—	5	13	18

### TETANUS (Either singly or in combination)

Ages at Date of Immunisation	Under 1 1962	1 to 4 1958-61	5-14 1948-57	Total
Primary Immunisations ...	82	207	21	310
Reinforcing Injections ... ..	—	4	11	15



## SMALLPOX VACCINATION

There were no cases of smallpox in the District during 1962 and a table is given below showing the number and ages of children vaccinated during the year.

Ages at Date of Vaccination	Under 1	1	2 to 4	5 to 14	15 or over	Total
Vaccinated .....	219	41	49	86	145	540
Re-vaccinated ...	—	2	7	36	199	244

**Note—Smallpox :** Notifications are normally only in respect of vaccinations to children under the age of 1 year.

## B.C.G. VACCINATION—School Scheme, 1962

Total Skin Tested	Positive Reactors	Negative Reactors Given B.C.G.	No. absent at time of reading
340	31	281	28

## POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION, 1962

### (a) SALK

Those persons given a primary course of 2 injections of Salk vaccine :—

Persons born in year :—	1962	1961	1943-60	1933-42	Others	Total
	1	52	352	43	69	517

In addition, 1,219 persons received a 3rd injection of Salk vaccine and 120 persons received a 4th injection.

### (b) ORAL

Those persons given a primary course of 3 doses of oral vaccine :—

Persons born in year :—	1962	1961	1943-60	1933-42	Others	Total
	25	88	950	62	77	1,202

In addition, 137 persons received a 3rd dose of oral vaccine following 2 injections of Salk; and 79 persons received a 4th dose of oral vaccine following 3 injections of Salk.



## ANNUAL RETURN OF FOOD POISONING

1. **Local Authority:** Seaham Urban District Council. **Year:** 1962

2. (a) **Food Poisoning Notifications** (Corrected) as returned to Reg. General :—

1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	TOTAL.
Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

(b) **Cases Otherwise Ascertained.**

1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	TOTAL.
Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

(c) **Symptomless Excreters.**

1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	TOTAL.
Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

(d) **Fatal Cases.**

1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	TOTAL.
Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

3. **Particulars of Outbreaks.**

Agent	No. of outbreaks		No. of cases		Total No. of cases
	Family outbreaks	Other outbreaks	Notified	Otherwise ascertained	
Agent identified :					
(a) Chemical Poisons (type to be stated) .. ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Salmonella (type to be stated):					
.....	Nil.	Nil	Nil.	Nil	Nil.
(c) Staphylococci (including toxin) .. ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(d) Cl. botulinum .. ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(e) Cl. welchii .. ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(f) Other bacteria (to be named) .. ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Totals .. ..	Nil.	Nil	Nil.	Nil	Nil.
Agent not identified .. ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

4. Single Cases.

AGENT	No. of cases		Total No. of cases
	Notified	Otherwise ascertained	
Agent identified :			
(a) Chemical Poisons (type to be stated) ..	Nil	Nil	Nil
.....			
(b) Salmonella (type to be stated) .....	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
.....			
(c) Staphylococci (including toxin) .. ..	Nil	Nil	Nil
(d) Cl. botulinum .. ..	Nil	Nil	Nil
(e) Cl. welchii .. ..	Nil	Nil	Nil
(f) Other bacteria (to be named) .. ..	Nil	Nil	Nil.
.....			
Totals ..	Nil.	Nil	Nil.
Agent not identified .. ..	Nil	Nil	Nil.

5. Salmonella Infections, not food-borne.

Salmonella (type)	Outbreaks		No. of cases	Single cases	Total No. of cases (outbreaks and single cases)
	Family	Other	(outbreaks)		
.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Totals ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

# **GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES**

## **IN SEAHAM URBAN DISTRICT**

---

### **1. Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.**

At the beginning of the Report a list is given showing the Officers connected with the Health Services in the District.

### **2. National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47.**

No cases of persons in need of care and attention were dealt with under the provisions of this section during the year.

### **3. Laboratory Facilities.**

The Public Health Laboratory, Havelock Hospital, Sunderland, provides facilities for the examination of pathological specimens and for the bacteriological examination of food samples. An excellent liaison exists with the Director and Staff of the Laboratory and results for samples submitted are obtained very quickly.

### **4. Other Health Services.**

The following Health Services are administered by the Durham County Council as the responsible Local Health Authority under the National Health Service Act.

Ambulance.	Domestic Helps.
Home Nursing.	Health Visitors.
Vaccination.	Child Welfare and Maternity.
Immunisation against	Welfare of the Aged (partly).
Diphtheria.	Welfare of the Blind.
Prevention of Illness,	Welfare of other handicapped
care and after-care.	persons.
Mental Health Services.	

The School Medical Service is also the responsibility of the County Council. Almost all the relevant sections of Part III of the National Assistance Act are administered by the County Council.

Food and Drugs Inspectors are appointed by, and work under the direction of, the County Council.

Schemes for the Prevention of Blindness are entirely under the jurisdiction of the County Council as the Local Health Authority.



Veterinary Inspectors are appointed by, and work under the direction of, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. They are responsible for carrying out routine examination of the dairy herds throughout the County in order to maintain and raise the standard of health of the cows.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is also responsible through its County officials for the supervision of byres and dairy premises.

---

## **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA**

### **Water.**

The Urban District is most adequately provided for in this respect, the water throughout the whole of the area being supplied by the Sunderland and South Shields Water Company. Although it is hard, the water is satisfactory both in quality and quantity. All houses in the district have a direct piped supply but, unfortunately, there are still a number—situated in the older part of the town and occupied by more than one family—in which a tap in the yard is used by all the occupants.

The Company samples the water at very regular intervals for both bacteriological and chemical examination. In addition, two samples, taken by the Health Department from taps in the district, were reported as satisfactory.

### **Swimming Baths.**

The Council has made no provision for public bathing and the only facilities available are provided by the Seaham Harbour Swimming Club and Dawdon Colliery.

### **Riparian Health Authority.**

No cases of infectious disease were notified during the year and no complaints, concerning conditions on ships, were received.

### **Rivers and Streams.**

The two main streams in the area, which flow through Dawdon Dene and Seaham Dene respectively and finally discharge into the sea, appear to be maintained in a satisfactory condition. No complaint of flooding or nuisance was reported during the year.

### **Common Lodging Houses.**

There are no common lodging houses in the Urban District.

## **REFUSE DISPOSAL, SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND STREET CLEANSING**

I am indebted to the Engineer and Surveyor for the following information on the above matters which are under his control.

### **Sewage Disposal.**

No treatment is carried out to the sewage which, after collection, is discharged direct to the sea from three main outfalls.

### **Refuse Collection and Disposal.**

Collection is carried out by direct labour using specially constructed vehicles. Disposal is by controlled tipping on sites leased to the Council. During the year 12,789 tons, 10 cwts. of house and trade refuse were collected and disposed of, together with 125 tons, 18 cwts., 1 qr. of waste paper; 4 tons, 8 cwts. of newsprint; 11 tons, 11 cwts. of fibreboard; and 8 tons, 7 cwts. of scrap metal.

### **Street Cleansing.**

By arrangement with Durham County Council, gullies on the County roads are cleansed by the staff of Seaham Urban District Council. During the year, 6,142 gullies were cleansed and flushed on U.D.C. highways and 2,985 on D.C.C. highways.

A mechanical roadsweeper is used for the cleansing of roads and streets.



**Summary of Work done by the Public Health Inspectors**  
**during the year 1962**

	No. of Inspection	No. of Informal Notices served	No. of Statutory Notices served	Defects remedied after Notice
Housing:				
Public Health and Housing Acts ...	497	15	12	17
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences:				
Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—
Defective ...	3	1	—	1
Drainage ...	9	1	2	2
Water Supply ...	—	—	—	—
Food Premises ...	351	27	—	20
Shops Act ...	253	—	—	—
Dairies ...	—	—	—	—
Slaughterhouses:				
Public ...	—	—	—	—
Private ...	6	—	—	—
Tents, Vans, etc. ...	—	—	—	—
Offensive Trades ...	—	—	—	—
Factories & Workplaces	48	4	—	3
Keeping of Animals ...	12	—	2	2
Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles ...	—	—	—	—
Offensive accumulations	23	—	3	3
Smoke Nuisances ...	5	1	—	1
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 ...	754	—	—	—
Dustbins ...	10	4	—	4
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>1,971</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>53</b>

Ashpit-privies converted into water-closets ... —

Ash-closets converted into water-closets ... —

Total number of water-closets in District ... 9,548

„ ash-closets in District ... —

„ ashpit-privies in District ... 9

### Disinfestation and Disinfection.

Work carried out under this heading includes the destruction of household pests and the disinfection of rooms following notification of infectious disease, etc.

Cockroaches form the main source of complaint of household pests. From the distribution of complaints received, they appear to infest certain rows of property and, in some instances, are most difficult to eradicate. 108 complaints were dealt with during the year.

7 houses were treated for bed bugs; 1 for fleas; 24 for earwigs; and 7 for woodworm.

Disinfection of rooms is carried out at the request of the occupier and, in all, 17 fumigations were undertaken during the year.

### Rodent Control.

Surface infestations. The following details have been extracted from the annual report submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 :

Complaints Received	Rats	Mice	Total
Dwelling Houses .....	64	66	130
Business Premises .....	37	13	50
Council Properties .....	6	2	8
TOTALS : ...	107	81	188

The total number of inspections carried out, including reinspections, was 754.

These figures show a downward trend from those for 1961 and it is hoped that this tendency will be maintained.

Several times throughout the year, the Rodent Operator has drawn attention to the fact that benevolent-minded persons who throw out bread scraps almost daily “for the birds” may have unwittingly been responsible for encouraging rats to migrate to that area, knowing that there is a ready food supply. Perhaps it would be better if the persons concerned provided an elevated bird table to which rats could not gain access.

Sewer Maintenance Treatments. Two treatments were carried out to the Council’s sewers, one in May and the other in October. A total of 150 manholes were baited direct with poison bait and, of this number, only 14 revealed bait “takes”. This return can be regarded as a satisfactory indication that rat infestation in the sewers is now comparatively small.

## **Factories.**

The number of factories on the register at the end of the year was 57, there being 47 powered factories, 7 non-powered factories and 3 factories on the sites of building operations. 6 notifications received from H.M. Inspector of Factories were dealt with; all concerned sanitary conveniences.

## **Clean Air Act, 1956.**

What has already been written into previous reports under this heading applies, without exception, to 1962. Whilst the Seaham Harbour Dock Company can be regarded as the chief offender in the district, because of heavy emissions of smoke from railway engines and installations, it must not be forgotten that each house contributes its quota to atmospheric pollution when raw coal is burnt. It is hoped that some smoke control in the district will be initiated without undue delay and that the time may not be far distant when clean air will take its rightful place with that of clean food, clean water and modern sanitation.

## **Cinemas and Halls**

With the increasing popularity of television, the demand for public entertainments in cinemas and halls has rapidly declined, with the result that many such buildings have closed down. Seaham has been no exception and, whereas formerly four cinemas served the needs of the community, only one now exhibits film shows regularly. The remaining three former cinemas are now used for other purposes. The sanitary condition of the buildings cannot be regarded as entirely satisfactory, although no complaints were received during the year.

## **Shops Act, 1950.**

Under the health and welfare provisions of the Act, 253 inspections were made during the year. Whilst conditions generally were found to be satisfactory, it was necessary to serve 15 informal notices, pointing out contraventions of the Act.

## **Pet Animals Act, 1951.**

There is no change from the reports of previous years. The one pet shop licensed under the Act appears to be conducted in a satisfactory manner.

## **Housing and Slum Clearance.**

No clearance areas were submitted to the Council during the year, as it was thought to be necessary to allow the rehousing of tenants from the Marlborough Street and Lord Street areas to progress before making further representations. 3 individual houses were closed as a result of formal action and 3 following informal



action. In addition, 30 houses in clearance areas previously declared were demolished.

The number of new houses erected during the year was as follows :

By the Council .....	63
By other housing authority .....	1
Private houses .....	3
	<hr/>
Total ...	67
	<hr/>

Steady progress was also made in the repair of houses under the Public Health and Housing Acts, the details being :

Houses repaired as a result of informal action	11
„ „ „ „ formal action	12
„ „ by the Council in default	3
	<hr/>
Total ...	26
	<hr/>

**Improvement Grants, Housing Acts, 1949/59.**

	No. of Separate Houses	
	Discretionary Grant	Standard Grant
Applications submitted to L.A. ....	182	1
Applications rejected by L.A. ....	4	—
Total number of applications approved since inception of scheme ...	508	108
Total number of grants paid since inception of scheme .....	395	106

## THE INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

### (i) Meat Inspection.

This report covers only the first six months of the year, as, on 30th June, all slaughterhouses in the Urban District closed down because of their failure to comply in full with the slaughterhouses regulations. 100% inspection of all animals slaughtered in the area, up to 30th June, was carried out in the course of which 56 visits were made. The number of animals slaughtered was 204 and the month by month record is as follows :

MONTH				Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Totals
January	...	...	...	10	—	—	32	5	47
February	...	...	...	8	—	—	21	3	32
March	...	...	...	8	—	—	20	—	28
April	...	...	...	7	—	—	31	5	43
May	...	...	...	8	—	—	20	3	31
June	...	...	...	7	—	—	13	3	23
TOTALS				48	—	—	137	19	204

The quality of the meat handled by retailers from the slaughterhouses within the area was of a high standard.

In accordance with Ministry of Health Circular No. 17 of 1955, details of the animals slaughtered and inspected are given below, together with the carcasses, part carcasses and organs condemned :



## APPENDIX.

### Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known) ...	48	—	—	137	19	—
Number inspected ... ..	48	—	—	137	19	—
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</b>						
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	3	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ... ..	6.25	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Tuberculosis only :</b>						
Whole carcases condemned...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Cysticercosis.</b>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—

### Carcases, Part Carcases and Organs Condemned.

Beast Livers (Fascioliasis) .....	1
Beast Livers (Abscesses) .....	1
Beast Lungs (Fascioliasis) .....	1

**(ii) (a) Ice-Cream—Premises.**

Ice-cream is a food commodity for which there is always a demand and it is usually sold pre-packed by many shops which also retail other foodstuffs. Registration of premises for the sale of ice-cream is a legal requirement under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and, at the end of 1962, 39 shops were registered for this purpose. In addition, there are 4 premises which are registered for the manufacture and sale of ice-cream, 3 of which employ van men for retailing the ice-cream in the streets.

Regular visits have been made to these premises during the year and no cause for complaint has arisen.

**(b) Ice-Cream—Sampling.**

Routine sampling of nationally and locally produced ice-cream was carried on throughout the year, the total number of samples obtained being 147. These were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for the Methylene Blue Reduction Test and the reports were as follows :

No. of Samples	Provisional Grading
86	1
21	2
25	3
15	4

14 of the grade 4 samples were obtained from two local producers. All samples of nationally produced ice-cream were grade 1.

**(iii) Cafes, Canteens and School Kitchens.**

As the demand from the general public in the area for “eating out” is very small, the facilities for this purpose are accordingly small. A combined cafe and snack bar provides lunches and snacks throughout the week and another cafe is now basically run for the provision of fish and chip meals. A third cafe, providing main meals, opened in August but closed at the end of the year. Light refreshments, including ice-cream, are also available at two snack bars.

Works canteens are provided at the three collieries in the district and school meals are prepared at and distributed from the two school kitchens.

**(iv) Fish and Chip Shops.**

Twelve shops are now retailing these food commodities in the district. This shows an increase of two over the previous year, due to the opening of a shop on the West Grove site during the year and another commencing to retail over the counter in addition to the cafe business.

**(v) Food and Drugs Act, 1955.**

No complaints relating to unsoundness were received during the year concerning food; and no formal procedure for seizing unfit food was necessary.

## **Voluntary Surrender of Unfit Food.**

The following is a list of foodstuffs voluntarily surrendered and destroyed as unfit for human consumption :

Apricots, 2 tins.	Milk, 16 tins.	Sago, 2 tins.
Bacon, 42 lbs.	Mutton, 3 tins.	Sausages, 3 tins.
Beans, 10 tins.	Oranges, 33 tins.	Shrimps, 2 tins.
Beef Steak & Veg., 1 tin	Peaches, 35 tins.	Soup, 3 tins.
Brisket Beef, 1 tin.	Pears, 15 tins.	Spaghetti, 3 tins.
Carrots, 3 tins.	Peas, 51 tins.	Steak, 15 tins.
Chicken, 2 tins.	Pineapple, 3 tins.	Steak & Kidney
Chopped Pork, 25 tins.	Plums, 13 tins.	Pudding, 3 tins.
Cooked Ham, 3 tins.	Pork, 3 tins.	Stew, 1 tin.
Corned Beef, 33 tins.	Prawns, 5 tins.	Syrup, 1 tin.
Crab, 3 tins.	Prunes, 4 tins.	Tomatoes, 104 tins.
Fruit Salad, 2 tins.	Raspberries, 1 tin.	Tongue, 8 tins.
Grapefruit, 3 tins.	Rice, 11 tins.	Veal, 4 tins.
Luncheon Meat, 5 tins.	Salmon, 8 tins.	

## **Food Not of the Nature, etc. (Sec. 2).**

Legal proceedings were taken under the above section, against a Seaham firm of bakers and confectioners for selling a sausage roll in which a piece of wire was found. A plea of “guilty” was entered and the firm was fined £10 and costs.

## **List of Registered Premises (Sec. 16).**

Butchers .....	17
Ice-Cream Manufacturers .....	4
Ice-Cream Retailers .....	39
	<hr/>
	60
	<hr/>

## **(vi) Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.**

### **Food Premises—Types and Numbers of Businesses :**

General Dealers .....	79
Butchers .....	18
Bakers .....	11
Confectioners .....	27
Fruiterers and Greengrocers .....	10
Fried Fish Shops .....	12
Wet Fish Shops .....	1
Canteens—Industrial .....	5
School Meals Kitchens .....	2
Cafes and Snack Bars .....	4
	<hr/>
	169
	<hr/>

Number of visits to food premises was 351.

Trading from mobile shops, chiefly on housing estates, gives cause for concern, due to the lower standard of hygiene which the Regulations allow, compared with those which can be required on fixed premises.



# **FACTORIES ACT, 1961**

1.—**INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..	7	5	—	—
	.....	.....	.....	.....
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	47	40	4	—
	.....	.....	.....	.....
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is en- forced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .. ..	3	3	—	—
	.....	.....	.....	.....
TOTAL ..	57	48	4	—



## 2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	1	1	—	5	—
(a) Insufficient ...	2	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective...	1	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	1	—	—
TOTAL...	4	3	1	6	—

# Amount of Shipping Entering the Port during the Year.

	Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected		Number reported to be defective	Number of Vessels on which defects were remedied	Number of Vessels on which defects were found and reported to Ministry of Transport Surveyors	Number of Vessels reported as having had, during the voyage, infectious disease on board.
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Public Health Inspector				
Foreign { *Motor Sailing Fishing	21	14,000	—	—	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Nil	Nil	—	—	"	"	"	"
	Nil	Nil	—	—	"	"	"	"
Total Foreign ...	21	14,000	—	—	"	"	"	"
Coastwise { *Motor Sailing... Fishing	856	579,515	—	—	"	"	"	"
	Nil	Nil	—	—	"	"	"	"
	Nil	Nil	—	—	"	"	"	"
Total Coastwise ...	856	579,515	—	—	"	"	"	"
Total Foreign and Coastwise	877	593,515	—	—	"	"	"	"

\* Includes mechanically propelled vessels other than steamers.



